HF Happenings 752

Volume 15, Issue 15, the week of 15 May 2017

May

1 - Workers Day
5 and 6 - Riebeek Valley Olive Festival
6 - SARL National Convention
7 - Ngwenya Country Market
13 and 14 - AWA Valve QSO Party
14 - Mother's Day
19 to 21 - Dayton Hamvention
20 - Radio Amateur Examination; Wakkerstroom Natural Fibre Handcraft Fair
21 - ZS3 Sprint
25 - Ascension Day; Closing date Radio ZS June
25 to 27 - Handcraft Exhibition, Fish Hoek
26 - Start of Ramadan
26 to 28 - SA Bike Festival, Kyalami
28 - SARL Digital Contest
31 - Republic Day; Shavuot

DXCC reinstatement of Midway and Kure islands

On 31 March the ARRL announced that Midway and Kure Islands had been placed on the list of DXCC deleted entities. "The stated reason for this action," the ARRL reported on 11 May, "was because of changes in the administration resulting from changes in Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument," which includes Midway and Kure. "After further review it has been found that the deletion of these two entities is not supported by the changes that were made to the relevant administrations. Therefore, the deletions from the DXCC list should not have occurred and the two entities, Midway Island KH4 and Kure Island KH7K, will return to the DXCC list as separate entities."

See www.arrl.org/news/midway-and-kure-islands-reinstated-as-dxcc-entities

3Y0Z Bouvet 2018

"We have found an alternate vessel that eliminates the repositioning costs and at the same time adds additional margins of safety for our team", the Bouvet Island DXpedition team (3Y0Z) announced on 5 May. "Our departure will be approximately mid-January 2018, possibly sailing to Bouvet from King George Island. We expect 9 to 11-day voyage to Bouvet. When the weather allows, we will land on the island by helicopter.

Our first priority will be to inspect the terrain, select a site clear of crevasses and establish our shelters stocked with emergency supplies. Once secured, we will bring the rest of our equipment ashore and commence radio operations as soon as possible. We expect to be at Bouvet for 21 days and allowing for weather, hope to be on the air for 14 to 16 days". You can read the full story in Press Release #5 on the News and Updates page on the DXpedition's website (http://www.bouvetdx.org/). "This is likely the most expensive DXpedition ever attempted and the operating team has committed to fund up to 50% of the costs. We are hopeful the DX community will fund the remainder. You may follow our planning progress and see our fund-raisings results on our website".

Word to the Wise

RaDAR: Rapid Deployment Amateur Radio. Originated by ZS6BNE, it's the "concept for operating an amateur radio station anywhere, anytime and even in adverse environmental conditions https://zs6bne.wordpress.com/2012/09/13/rapid-deployment-amateur-radio/."

Operators are encouraged carry their gear as well as support items like food, water and shelter, to their operating locations, and during rallies or contests are encouraged to change locations after a certain number of contacts. Coordination is through a website https://plus.google.com/communities/109283065808971118728

and RaDAR Challenge events occur on three weekends a year http://www.southga-tearc.org/news/2017/march/rapid-deployment-amateur-radio-challenge.htm.

KE9V's Calling CQ e-mail newsletter, http://ke9v.net/cq/issue-87.html, noted N4KGL's RaDAR - Rapid Amateur Radio Deployment Challenge activity in Florida http://www.n4kgl.info/2017/04/radar-challenge-heaven-at-st-george.html. RaDAR operators take everything they need to operate in the field for four hours of a 24-hour period, including food and shelter. The catch is that operators are to move locations every 5 contacts by at least 1 kilometre if on foot.
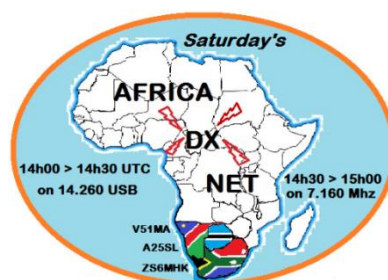
No Logging Programme?

If installing a logging program on your computer before a contest is just too much of a bother, you can still paper log and then enter your contacts into a web form at http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/. Many popular contests are supported, see the web page for details.

Great Circle Mapper

Mark, K6UFO, suggests: "I was using the Great Circle Mapper the other day to visualize directions and paths into Europe http://www.gcmap.com/. If you don't know the Airport codes, it has a search function, it also can show Lat/Long of starting and ending points, and several map options."

African DX

Eritrea, E3. While the 19 to 29 May E31A operation from Asmara will be conducted as scheduled, the E39DI activity from IOTA group AF-038 has been postponed. "Our E3 DXpedition Team will go to Dahlak Archipelago as planned", JA1NRH reports, "but the stay there will be shortened due to a strong suggestion by the Eritrean Government. Hence, very unfortunately, we may not have sufficient time to operate from there this time. Instead we will do research on how we can operate next time, most probably in the autumn of this year, studying the terrain, facilities available, accessibility and so on. We also hope the condition will become better in the autumn".

Cameroon, TJ. Dan, AA9WO, is a new resident living at Yaounde and became active as TJ3PD on 10 May. Activity has been on 20 metres SSB, but operations are limited to time, weather and electricity (constant power outages). He states on QRZ.com, "Hopefully, I can get a battery hooked up so the daily power cuts don't take me off the air so often." "The Daily DX" states, "Dan is running 100 watts, or less, from an IC-707 using dipoles, at the moment. For the moment listen for him on 40, 20 and 10 metres mainly on SSB. However, he plans to eventually be active on 80 - 10 metres." QSL via LoTW.

Republic of the Congo, TN. Ken, LA7GIA, will be active as TN5E from Brazzaville between 25 May and 4 June. Activity will be on 80 - 10 meters (possibly 6 m) using CW and SSB. His equipment is an Elecraft K3 with an Ameritron ALS 500 amp, into a 2-element rotatable beam for 20/15/10 m (up 25-30 meters), wire dipoles on 80/40/30/17/12 m (up 25-30 meters), 80 m dipole fixed to EU, 40/30/17/15/12 m dipole fixed to NA/VK, 5 element Cushcraft 50 MHz rotatable beam up 25 meter, Low-band receiving antennas, homebrew K9AY and BOG, and wire backup antennas on all frequencies (dipole/delta loop). QSL via M0OXO, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS. FREE LoTW 5 June! OQRS will be activated, Bureau cards MUST be requested via OQRS!! For more details and updates, see http://la7gia.com/tn%20-%20congo/index.html

African Islands

IOTA frequencies
CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Madeira, CT9. Operators Serge, R7KW and Oleg, YL3JM will once again be active as CT9/R7KW and CT9/YL3JM from Madeira Island (AF-014) between 25 and 28 May. Activity will be on various HF bands. Look for CT9/R7KW to be in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (27 and 28 May). QSL both call signs via K2PF or ClubLog's OQRS.

Canary Islands, EG8. Jack, R2AA, will be active as EG8AA from the Canary Islands during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (27 and 28 May) as a Single-Op/All- Band entry. QSL via RW3RN.

Sierra Leone, 9L (IOTA Op). The Italian DXpedition Team (IDT) has announced that their next DXpedition will be in mid-March 2018 will be to Sherbro Island (AF-056) using the callsign 9L1T. Operators mentioned are Alfeo, I1HJT, Silvano, I2YSB, Vinicio, IK2CIO, Angelo, IK2CKR, Marcello, IK2DIA, Stefano, IK2HKT and Mac, JA3USA. Art, IK7JWY, will be the HF pilot station. They expect to have 3 stations on all HF bands (no 50 MHz), using CW and SSB, and RTTY one band only, to be chosen. You can participate in the 9L1T survey on their web site at http://www.i2ysb.com/idt. Subject to the availability of internet connection, the real-time Log will be available at http://win.i2ysb.com/logonline and the official forum at http://www.hamradioweb.net

Liberia. "DX-World.net" reports that a team of 4 to 5 seasoned IOTA activators are planning a 3 to 4-day operation from Baiyah Island (IOTA AF-111P) later this year. Dates are to be determined, but probably sometime in November. A reconnaissance trip has been completed with vital information on this little-known island being collated. This IOTA group has never been activated before. More details, Web site and callsign will be forthcoming in the second half of 2017.

Contest Calendar
This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 15 to 22 May 2017

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
00:00 - 02:00 UTC 15 May
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 31 May 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://qrpcontest.com/4sqrp
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.4sqrp.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 May
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 19 May 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.per-luma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 17 May and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 20 May 2017
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 19 May
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 21 May 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 19 May
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 21 May 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

Slobozhansky Sprint Contest
18:00 - 19:59 UTC (SSB) and 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 19 May (CW)
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80 m
Classes: Single-Op Multi-Band - CW, SSB or both; Single-Op Single-Band; Multi-Single
Exchange: Serial no and Administrative District (URDA, RDA, province, state)
Work stations: Once per band per 15-minute period (see rules)
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each administrative district once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 9 June 2017
E-mail logs to: ut0lwr@ukr.net
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://ut0lwr.wixsite.com/gotdr/slo-bozhanskij-sprint

UN DX Contest
06:00 - 21:00 UTC 20 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed - low or high; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op Single Transmitter; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts
Exchange: Kazakhstan: RS(T) and district code; non-Kazakhstan: RS(T) and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent; non-Kazakhstan: 10 points per QSO with Kazakhstan station
Multipliers: Each KDA district once per band; Each DXCC country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 4 June 2017
E-mail logs to: log@undxc.kz
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://undxc.kz/bez-rubriki/2015-2/

NZART Sangster Shield Contest
08:00 - 11:00 UTC 20 May and 08:00 - 11:00 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: New Zealand
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op
Max power: non-ZL: >5 watts; ZL: 5 watts
Exchange: ZL: RST, serial no and Branch no; non-ZL: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per half hour
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: ZL branches once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 17 June 2017
E-mail logs to: sangster@nzart.org.nz
Mail logs to: Contest Manager, Glenn Kingston ZL2KZ, 53 Tannadyce Street, Wellington 6003, New Zealand
Find rules at: http://www.nzart.org.nz/activities/contest-rules/rules-sangster-shield/

His Majesty the King of Spain CW Contest
12:00 UTC 20 May to 12:00 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: EA: RST and province; non-EA: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each EA province once per band; Each EADX100 entity once per band; Each special (EA0) station once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 5 June 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://concursos.ure.es/en/logs/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://concursos.ure.es/en/s-m-el-rey-de-espana-cw/bases/

EU PSK DX Contest
12:00 UTC 20 May to 12:00 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: BPSK63
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - 24 h or 12 h - high or low; Single Op Low Bands - high or low; Single Op High Bands - high or low; Single Op Single Band - high or low; Multi-Single - YM or OM; Multi-Multi - YM or OM
Max power: HP: 100 watts; LP: 10 watts
Exchange: EU: RST and EU area code; non-EU: RST and QSO no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; non-EU Stations: 5 points per QSO with EU
Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band; Each EU area code once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 May 2017
Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.eupsk.com/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf

Aegean RTTY Contest
12:00 UTC 20 May to 12:00 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op; Multi-Op
Exchange: RST and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 15 June 2017
E-mail logs to: artty@aegeandxgroup.gr
Mail logs to: Aegean RTTY Contest, PO Box 04, 83100 Samos Hellas, Greece
Find rules at: http://www.aegeandxgroup.gr/dx%20pdf/rules%20of%20RTTY%20Contest.pdf

Feld Hell Sprint
16:00 - 17:59 UTC 20 May and 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 20 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: Feld Hell
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 24 May 2017
Upload log at: https://sites.google.com/site/feld-hellclub/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://sites.google.com/site/feldhell-club/Home/contests/sprints/hamvention-sprint

Baltic Contest
21:00 UTC 20 May to 02:00 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op CW/SSB; Single Op 2 Hrs CW/SSB; Single Op CW; Single Op SSB; Multi-Single; SWL
Exchange: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per mode
QSO Points: ES/YL/LY Stations: 1 point per QSO with EU; ES/YL/LY Stations: 2 points per QSO with non-EU; EU Stations: 10 points per QSO with ES/YL/LY; EU Stations: 1 point per QSO with non-EU; non-EU Stations: 20 points per QSO with ES/YL/LY; non-EU Stations: 1 point per QSO with non-ES/YL/LY
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 10 June 2017

E-mail logs to: lrsf@lrsf.lt
Mail logs to: Baltic Contest, PO Box 210, LT-44003 Kaunas, Lithuania
Find rules at: http://www.lrsf.lt/bcontest/english/rules_html.htm

UA2 QSO Party
13:00 - 16:59 UTC 21 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op – CW, SSB or mixed
Multi-Single; Junior Multi-Single; SWL
Exchange: UA2: RS(T) and RDA ID; non-UA2: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-UA2 station; 5 points per QSO with UA2 station
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 14 June 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/ru/submit_log.php?lang=en
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/382.html

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
01:00 - 03:00 UTC 22 May
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 28 May 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 24 May
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 May
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 24 May and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 25 May
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 19:00 – 20:30 UTC 25 May
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 26 May
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 26 May
CQ WW WPX CW Contest, 00:00 UTC 27 May to 23:59 UTC 28 May
SARL Digital Contest ,13:00 - 16:00 UTC 28 May
QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint, 20:00 – 24:00 local 28 May

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter